

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9 line 7 with the following:

An embodiment of back end 11 is shown in more detail in Fig. 2. Cable return path processing 102 is provided by a bank of RF modems 102b. Splitters 102a extract cable signals for processing by the RF modems 102b. Telephone return path processing 101 is provided through the public service telephone network 101a to an integrated channel bank and modem 101b. Network interface 104 is provided by router firewall 105b and CSU/DSU (customer service unit/data service unit) 105a. Router firewall 105b is in communication with Ethernet switch 108. Also shown in Fig. 3 are web proxy and application server 107, system manager ~~108~~ 114, network manager 109 and commerce manager 110 in communication with Ethernet switch 108. System manager 108 provides for the allocation of resources to permit interactive services with a user, as well as procedures for call set-up and tear down. Commerce manager 110 manages real-time transactions and converts billing to a batch format for handling by legacy systems. Also shown in Fig. 2 are operations console 111 and boot server 112 in communication with Ethernet switch 108.